



CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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COUNTY MANAGER

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Established 1771

**Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners
Honoring John Franklin Grimes III for his Service to
Chatham County and the Town of Siler City**

WHEREAS, the County of Chatham and our community at-large are deeply saddened by the passing of long-time county resident and Siler City Mayor Mr. John Franklin Grimes, III on Tuesday, October 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III was born on March 15, 1943 in Salisbury, North Carolina to J.F. Grimes and Virginia Williams Grimes and was raised in Coolemeemee, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III attended Davie County High School and Wake Forest University, where he received a four-year scholarship to play football; and

WHEREAS, the leadership abilities of John Franklin Grimes, III were evident at an early age as demonstrated by his becoming an Eagle Scout and serving as a Captain 3/8th Calvary of the 8th Infantry Division in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III moved to Siler City with his wife Cecilia Budd Grimes in 1968 and raised two sons and had a successful career at Cecil Budd Tire Company for 49 years; and

WHEREAS, during his four years as a County Commissioner from 1994-1998, John Franklin Grimes, III advocated for the needs of Chatham County's children and elderly residents and supported adequate facilities for these two important populations; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III was the first Republican to be elected to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners since Reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III led County government in several areas, including transportation planning, welfare reform, and improvements to the County's budget process, and establishing a non-profit transportation agency; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III was elected as a Town of Siler City Commissioner for District 4 on November 2, 1999 and re-elected in 2003, 2007, and 2011; and was appointed Mayor Pro Tempore by the Town of Siler City Board of Commissioners on December 1, 2003 and reappointed on December 5, 2005; and ran for Mayor for the Town of Siler City and won on November 5, 2013 and was re-elected in 2015, 2017, and 2019; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III was always willing to reach across the aisle to work with his fellow elected officials to work for the betterment of the community; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III's service to the community was demonstrated in many other areas, including his work as a volunteer fireman, his service as a Bank Director for Home Savings Bank of Siler City, his membership in First Baptist Church of Siler City, and establishing a non-profit transportation agency; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III believed it was his civic duty to vote and voted in every election from the time he was eighteen-years-old until casting his last ballot just days before he passed; and

WHEREAS, John Franklin Grimes, III was awarded the Order of the Longleaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civilian honor; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners that we hereby express our sincere sympathy to the family of John Franklin Grimes, III including his widow, Cecilia Budd Grimes; two sons, John Thomas and wife Alysia, and Stephen and wife Marcia; a sister, Kathy Januzelli and brother-in-law Jim; and his grandchildren, nieces and nephews; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be entered into the permanent records of Chatham County, North Carolina and a copy of this Resolution be presented to his family as a token of our sympathy and our appreciation for his honorable service to the entire community of Chatham County.

Adopted, this the 16th day of November, 2020.

Karen A. Howard
Karen Howard, Chair
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:
Lindsay K. Ray
Lindsay K. Ray, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

